

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 180062 TOSEC 080023
ORIGIN PA-02

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FOR CARTER FROM PA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, XF

SUBJECT: PUBLIC VIEWS ON PALESTINIAN HOMELAND

1. THE ROPER POLL HAS MADE AVAILABLE TO US THE RESPONSES ON THREE QUESTIONS REGARDING A PALESTINIAN HOMELAND. WE HAVE THE DATA FOR LIMITED INTERNAL USE UNTIL ITS RELEASE DATE IN AUGUST.

2. LITERALLY HALF THE PUBLIC (50 PERCENT) DISCLAIMED KNOWLEDGE OR AN OPINION ABOUT THIS ISSUE. AMONG THE REMAINDER, THE PREDOMINANT INCLINATION IS TO FAVOR A PALESTINE HOMELAND (BY 30 VS. 20 PERCENT), ALTHOUGH A GOOD MANY WHO ARE INCLINED TO THE FAVORABLE VIEW ARE DISTURBED BY CURRENT PLO METHODS FOR ACHIEVING THIS OBJECTIVE. (ONE-THIRD OF THOSE WHO SAID THEY FAVORED A HOMELAND VOLUNTEERED THEIR CONCERN OVER PLO METHODS.)
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 180062 TOSEC 080023

3. THE RESPONSES ALSO INDICATE THAT THE PUBLIC WOULD REACT MORE FAVORABLY TO THE IDEA OF A PALESTINIAN HOMELAND IF THE PLO TOOK A STANCE THAT APPEARED COMPROMISING AND PEACEABLE REGARDING ISRAEL. IN THAT EVENT, THE GENERAL PUBLIC BELIEVES ISRAEL SHOULD AGREE TO A HOMELAND BY 42 TO 19 PERCENT; 39 PERCENT HAD NO

OPINION.

4. RESPONSES BY DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS ARE BOTH CLOSE TO THOSE OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC. COLLEGE-EDUCATED RESPONDENTS ARE MORE IN FAVOR OF A PALESTINE HOMELAND THAN THE GENERAL PUBLIC (38 VS. 26 PERCENT) AND MORE OF THE COLLEGE-EDUCATED BELIEVE ISRAEL SHOULD ACCEPT A HOMELAND IN EXCHANGE FOR PEACE AND RECOGNITION (51 VS. 23 PERCENT).

5. ROPER ASKED THE 42 PERCENT OF THE ENTIRE PUBLIC WHO SAID ISRAEL "SHOULD" AGREE TO A HOMELAND FOR THE PALESTINIANS IN THE EVENT THEY ACCEPTED THE NATIONHOOD OF ISRAEL WHETHER THE U.S. SHOULD REDUCE MILITARY SUPPLIES TO ISRAEL "UNTIL IT AGREES TO A PALESTINE HOMELAND." MORE THAN HALF OF THIS GROUP -- 23 PERCENT OF THE ENTIRE PUBLIC -- FAVORED SUCH PRESSURE. APPROXIMATELY A QUARTER OF ALL DEMOCRATS, REPUBLICANS, AND THE COLLEGE-EDUCATED ALSO FAVORED U.S. PRESSURE UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES.

6. THESE RESPONSES ARE IN KEEPING WITH ROPER DATA OF A MONTH AGO INDICATING THAT THE PREDOMINANT PUBLIC SENTIMENT WAS IN FAVOR OF A SETTLEMENT IN WHICH ISRAEL GAVE UP TERRITORY IN EXCHANGE FOR PEACE.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 180062 TOSEC 080023

7. ROPER'S THREE QUESTIONS ON A PALESTINE HOMELAND ARE THE MOST DETAILED THAT HAVE APPEARED IN A NATIONAL POLL INTENDED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE. FIRST, HE ASKED:

8. "AS YOU MAY KNOW, THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST -- KNOWN AS THE PLO -- WANTS TO ESTABLISH A HOMELAND FOR PALESTINIAN REFUGEES ON TERRITORY ONCE HELD BY THE PALESTINIANS, BUT NOW HELD BY ISRAEL. DO YOU THINK THE PLO IS RIGHT OR WRONG IN WANTING TO ESTABLISH A PALESTINIAN HOMELAND IN ISRAEL, OR HAVEN'T YOU PAID MUCH ATTENTION TO IT?"

COLLEGE-
TOTAL DEM. REPUB. EDUCATED

RIGHT	21	22	20	26	
RIGHT, BUT WRONG METHODS					-
(VOLUNTEERED)		9	7	11	12
WRONG	20	20	22	26	
HAVEN'T PAID ATTENTION			33	33	33 24
DON'T KNOW	17	18	14	12	

9. ROPER NEXT ASKED: "IF THE PLO AGREED TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL AS A JEWISH STATE AND ALSO STOPPED ITS MILITARY RAIDS ON ISRAEL, DO YOU THINK ISRAEL SHOULD AGREE TO THE IDEA OF A HOMELAND FOR PALESTINIAN REFUGEES ON TERRITORY ONCE HELD BY ISRAEL, OR DON'T YOU THINK THEY SHOULD AGREE TO SUCH A PALESTINIAN HOMELAND?"

COLLEGE-

TOTAL DEM. REPUB. EDUCATED

(PERCENT)

ISRAEL SHOULD AGREE TO A

HOMELAND	42	43	45	51
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ISRAEL SHOULDN'T AGREE TO

A HOMELAND	19	18	23	23
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DON'T KNOW	39	39	32	26
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PAGE 04 STATE 180062 TOSEC 080023

10. ROPER THEN ASKED A FINAL QUESTION OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED THAT ISRAEL "SHOULD" AGREE TO A HOMELAND IF THE PLO ACCEPTED ISRAEL:

11. "SUPPOSE THE PLO AGREES TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL AND STOP ITS RAIDS, BUT ISRAEL WON'T GO ALONG WITH THE IDEA OF A PALESTINIAN HOMELAND. IN THAT CASE, DO YOU THINK WE SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT REDUCE U.S. MILITARY SUPPLIES TO ISRAEL UNTIL IT AGREES WITH THE IDEA OF A PALESTINIAN HOMELAND?"

COLLEGE-

TOTAL DEM. REPUB. EDUCATED

(PERCENT)

U.S. SHOULD REDUCE MILITARY

SUPPLIES	23	24	22	25
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U.S. SHOULD NOT REDUCE

MILITARY SUPPLIES	14	13	14	19
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DON'T KNOW	6	6	9	7
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